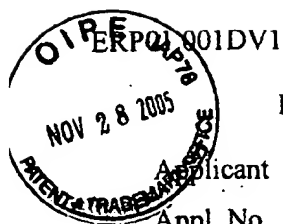


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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Ann Burchell, et al.
Appl. No. : 09/972,105
Filed : October 4, 2001
For : PRENATAL DIAGNOSTIC
METHODS
Examiner : Lisa V. Cook
Group Art Unit : 1641

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all marked attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mailstop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

November 23, 2005

(Date)

Connie C. Tong, Reg. No. 52,292

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RCE
2-24-06

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed August 23, 2005, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner consider the following arguments.

A listing of claims begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.